

Message Text

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TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO 97TH EXBD MEETING: ITEM 3.1.1: ROLE OF
SOCIAL SCIENCES

REFS: (A) PARIS 7546; (B) STATE 79049

1. PERMDEL SINCERELY APPRECIATES DEPT'S POSITIVE RESPONSE TO REF. A AND LOOKS FORWARD TO FRUITFUL RESULTS OF WORKING GROUP, WHICH EMINENTLY QUALIFIED TO DISCUSS SOCIAL SCIENCES ROLE IN UNESCO IN RELATION TO ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE.

2. CARNEIRO STUDY HAS NOT YET BEEN SUBMITTED AND THEREFORE NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, DG'S PRINTED RPT. ON 1974 ACTIVITIES CONTAINS SEVENTEEN PAGES ANALYSIS OF SUBJECT MATTER AND SHOULD BE VERY USEFUL TO MEMBERS OF WORKING GROUP. WHILE IT DOES NOT PROVIDE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS ON ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, THE RPT. ILLUSTRATES AND DIAGNOSES, WE BELIEVE CORRECTLY, SOME OF MAJOR REASONS BEHIND PRESENT STATE OF AFFAIRS VIS-A-VIS SOCIAL SCIENCES, WITH RESULTANT LACK OF SPECIFIC, SYSTEMATIC AND DELIBERATE AFFIRMATION OF HIGH PRIORITY FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES IN UNESCO.

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3. IN TRYING TO COME UP WITH RECOMMENDATIONS ON ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, THE GROUP SHOULD BE AWARE OF CURRENT TRENDS IN UNESCO, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY DISCUSSIONS AT LAST GENCONF., I.E. THAT ORGANIZATION'S PROGRAM BE DEFINED "BY OBJECTIVES," AS FORMULATED IN RESOLUTION 10.1 OF 18 GENCONF. SECONDLY, THAT NEW DG IS DETERMINED TO INTRODUCE GREATER DECENTRALIZATION OF UNESCO BUREAUCRACY AND IS NOT LIKELY TO INCREASE NUMBER OF ADG-SHIPS. ON THE CONTRARY, PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE ONLY TWO SECTORS AT ADG LEVEL THAT LIKELY TO SURVIVE FORTHCOMING RESTRUCTURING ARE EDUCATION AND SCIENCE SECTORS. CONSEQUENTLY, SOCIAL SCIENCES COULD EITHER BE MERGED ADMINISTRATIVELY WITH SCIENCE SECTOR, OR MAINTAIN ITS SEPARATE EXISTENCE AT DEPARTMENT LEVEL, SERVICING OTHER SECTORS/DEPARTMENTS/PROJECTS AND RUNNING HIGHLY SELECTED, WELL DEFINED AND ORGANIZED PROGRAM OF ITS OWN.

4. ON THIS LATTER POINT, DEPUTY PERMREP BELIEVES GROUP MAY WISH TO CONSIDER FEASIBILITY OF CREATION OF INTER-GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAM IN SOCIAL SCIENCES OF PRACTICAL VALUE TO MEMBER STATES AND BASED ON EXISTING NATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS (E.G. ON SUCH PROBLEMS AS DRUG ABUSE, WOMEN, POPULATION). UNESCO MIGHT BE PROPER FORUM TO INITIATE CREATION OF SUCH A FRAMEWORK OF INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION (COMPARE MAB, UNISIST, IOC, IHP).

5. PLEASE CABLE IMMEDIATELY RESULTS ABOVE CONSULTATIONS AND PROVIDE TALKING POINTS FOR ANY MAJOR INITIATIVES IN SUBJECT AREA.
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